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BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1959

By

A. R. ROBERTSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. A. R. Robertson, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
"Dale Close", 100 Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield.
(Tel. Mansfield 811).

Chief Public Health Inspector :

ROBERT CLARKSON (a) (b)

District Public Health Inspector :

JAMES A. YOUNG (a) (b)

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

GEOFFREY G. EITE (a)
ARTHUR T. SINGLETON (a) (b)
STANLEY H. PRICE (a) (b)

(a) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
(b) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

PREFACE

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I have the privilege of submitting to you an Annual Report. The year in question, 1959, was made sad by the death of my predecessor, Dr. A. H. Wear. You know better than I the sterling service which Dr. Wear gave to the Council. He had worked long and hard and I am very sorry that his retirement was so short.

I hope you will find the Report to be interesting and of some use. Again, it is my privilege and pleasure to thank you for the interest you have shown throughout the year and for the help and encouragement you gave to my Department. Again too, I must thank Mr. Williams (Engineer and Surveyor) and Mr. Wells (Architect) for their contributions to this Report.

Each year I have to thank everyone on the staff of Blackwell R.D.C. for their help. I wish to stress that this repetition is not just a meaningless formula. I mean it sincerely every year. Finally, my sincere thanks to Mr. Evans (Clerk of the Council) for all his help and sound advice.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

"Dale Close",
100 Chesterfield Road South,
Mansfield.

LEUKAEMIA IN MY DISTRICT AND THE PRESS

In 1959 I attended the Royal Society of Health Congress in Harrogate. One morning I came down to breakfast (as usual, I was the last down) to find that one of my districts was splashed across some of the national newspapers. Cresswell, a town in Clowne Rural District, was described as a "village of fear." According to the papers, there had been five deaths from leukaemia in Creswell in the last two or three months. You got the impression that an air of doom lay over Creswell—like the feelings shown by a village in a Frankenstein picture. Of course, one paper in particular tied these deaths up with radio-activity and H. bombs, etc., etc.

I want to stress here that the papers concerned did not get in touch with me, before they printed their story. I admit I was in Harrogate and not at home, but, my address could easily have been obtained from the Congress Headquarters.

Now, what are the facts? In 1959, there were three deaths from Leukaemia in the Clowne Rural District. If you take my three districts together you find the following figures :

Deaths from Leumaemia.	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Bolsover U.D.	—	2	1	1	—
Blackwell R.D.	1	1	3	—	2
Clowne R.D.	—	1	—	—	3

Remember, the papers said there had been five deaths from Leukaemia in Creswell within a few months. As the above shows, there have not been five deaths in the whole of Clowne R.D. in the last FIVE YEARS, never mind months. And, lumping my three districts together, there have only been fifteen deaths from leukaemia in the last five years. The figures published in the press were, therefore, an exaggeration (at best) and a figment of the imagination (at worst).

We have disposed of the figures given. What about the assumption that there was a common cause? I can do no better than quote from the report I made to Clowne Rural District Council.

"I have now received notification of three deaths from leukaemia this year. These all occurred in men who live in Creswell. I have investigated these cases and I give my findings below.

Case 1. Age 15. This adolescent was admitted to hospital on 5.4.59. He had been ill for two years previously. He was diagnosed as myeloid leukaemia. Despite treatment he died on 27.4.59.

Case 2. Age 67. This man was first seen at hospital on 13.8.58. and he had been ill for several months. He was diagnosed as lymphatic leukaemia. He initially gave a good response to treatment but his condition deteriorated and he was admitted into hospital on 12.3.59. He died on 18.3.59. I have said that he took ill in 1958 but on going through his history it was found that he developed an enlarged gland in 1941. It is very probable that his leukaemia started before 1941. Lymphatic leukaemia can behave in this manner. There can be phases of remission lasting years during which the disease is quiescent.

Case 3. Age 35. This man was seen originally in hospital in 1954, when he had been ill for two years. He was diagnosed as chronic myeloid leukaemia. With treatment the disease was kept fairly well in control for nearly four years. However, by July 1958, it became obvious that the leukaemia was changing to a more acute form. Further treatment produced six months remission but he again became acutely ill and died on 30.1.59."

If anyone, after reading the above report, can find a common cause in these three cases, than I shall eat my hat and boots as well. These deaths had nothing whatever to do with H. bombs, A. bombs or any other bombs.

Thus on both grounds, the papers were wrong. They printed wrong totals and suggested an impossible cause. The whole article was rubbish. All this without consulting the M.O.H. for the area. What happened when all the facts came out? Was there a retraction? Not on your life, there was only a 'dignified silence' on the offender's part.

My purpose in writing this is twofold. First, I want to reassure all the people in my districts. Second, I wish to show how irresponsibly the Press can behave. At many Conferences one hears about how the Press will co-operate and about how they will only report soberly. Well, the proof of the pudding is in the eating. And, this particular pudding would have made anyone throw up.

The galling things is the lack of retraction. To this day there are probably people quoting Creswell as an example of the dangers of atomic radiation. We all know the old saying, "seeing is believing" and it does hold good for many people. Unfortunately, what they saw in this instance was a mere mirage.

I must emphasise that all the above refers to national newspapers. The local papers (as they have always done with me) behaved responsibly and soberly. When I returned from Harrogate, they got in touch with me and ascertained the true facts. I thank them for their good sense and courtesy over this affair.

To sum up :

1. There were three deaths in Creswell from Leukaemia in 1959, not five in a few months.
2. I am firmly convinced that these deaths were not caused by atomic radiation.

AN UNEXPECTED RESULT

Recently, I was talking to a mother whose little girl had been in hospital suffering from an infectious disease. The little girl is aged 4½ years and she is an only child. Naturally, I asked if she were better now that she was home again. To my pleasure, the mother replied that her daughter was better in every way since her stay in hospital. As for the illness, that had been completely cured. But, in addition, there had been many other benefits. These improvements were as follows :—

1. She was more independent in every way.
2. She would bathe herself and use the toilet by herself, both with less fuss than before.
3. She would help get sandwiches and then enjoy them. And altogether she was much less 'faddy' about food.
4. She could dress herself.
5. Her previous attitude of not wanting to go to school had changed to one of positive anticipation. Now, she just can't wait to get started at school.

In short, to quote her mother, 'It was a pleasure to have her home.'

Well, that is what happened in a particular case. More important, though, is what happens generally. I worked as a paediatric house physician for six months. During that time I helped care for many children (there were well over 100 beds and cots in the unit in which I worked). Their ages ranged from a few days to 14 years and there were equal numbers of boys and girls. How did they get on ?

They were visited regularly by their parents. Saturday afternoon was the longest and most important visiting time. I was present throughout this time and was always available to report progress to the parents (this is a procedure which I feel every hospital should follow ; once a week a Doctor should be present at visiting time to answer questions). After the parents left, there were always tears. The amount of tears varied from child to child and in each particular child from time to time. I and the nurses then made a point of jostling the children up a bit. You would tousle the head of this one, look at that one's comics and accept a sweet or a chocolate biscuit from another one. In a short time we could have all the children laughing. Indeed with all the sweets and presents that had been brought in, we soon had a party of sorts going. All that was needed was a little extra time and relaxation on the part of the staff.

I used to tell the above to parents when they asked me if their child was fretting. Quite honestly, I doubt if they believed me because when they last saw their child, he or she was probably sobbing as though they would never stop. It may be difficult to believe that in 10 minutes that child would be laughing and swapping comics and sweets with a neighbour but in my experience that is exactly what happened, time after time.

So, parents, if your child has to go into hspital, please do not worry about them fretting. They are more likely to have the time of their young lives. Of course, I cannot speak for every particular child, but, I can swear that the vast majority of the children in my care, while I worked in hospital, did not fret. Further you have the example before you of the one particular child with whom I started this little section.

PAIL CLOSETS

One week of my 1959 holidays was spent in Skye. This is an island off the coast of Scotland. If you look at a large scale map of Skye you will see a place called Elgol which is situated on the southwest coast of the island. This little hamlet must contain at least six houses. People go there because you get a wonderful view of the Cuillin Hills from Elgol and there is a motor boat trip round the base of the hills (there is also really clean air which has to be inhaled to be believed). While I was there the sound of the sea had its usual effect upon me. I looked around and saw a little white-washed building with a welcome inscription upon it. With some trepidation I entered, wondering what sort of primitive apparatus I should find. To my gratification I found an efficient and spotless water closet of which I made good use.

Has this anything to do with my districts? Yes, I feel it has. This year, we had a Clearance Area refused by the Minister. The houses in this Area had pail closets. At the Hearing, the owners of the houses promised to repair and improve them. They did *not* promise at the Hearing to convert the pail closets to water closets. The area concerned is situated only half a mile from a small town of some 3,000 people. Yet, the inspector found that having regard to the fact that we were a rural district, etc., pail closets could be accepted. I cannot agree with this finding. In this day and age, should we not have housing standards which forbid the use of pail closets? And, if a water closet can be provided in a hamlet on Skye then surely they should be demanded by law in houses near a population of 3,000 or so.

I remember many trips I made with my mother when I was a little boy. My maternal grandparents are buried in Old Monkland cemetery which is near Coatbridge. We used to visit their graves frequently. Afterwards we would visit some cousins of my mother who lived in a village called Bargeddie. The village was supplied with very primitive pail closets. Even as little boy I was offended to the depths of my being by these. The smell was loathsome and the flies were thick. I was literally very nearly sick every time I used them—I can remember fighting the urge to vomit. I am

pleased to say that these houses were demolished long before 1939.

From the aesthetic point of view, nothing can be said for pail closets. As for health, anyone who is not blind can see that they attract flies. Flies are called flies because they fly. And they fly here there and everywhere after they have investigated a pail closet. Can anyone doubt that disease is spread thus?

In short, I feel that our housing standards should be altered so that a water closet becomes compulsory. At present, a back to back house is held to be unfit merely because it is back to back. I am certain that the same provision ought to apply to a house with a pail closet. Indeed, if my wife and I had to choose between a back to back house with a w.c. and a non back to back with a pail closet I know which we should have. I sincerely hope that I shall see pail closets made illegal during my working life.

Note. In case some of you are suspicious after reading the first paragraph of this section, I wish to make it clear that I am not employed by the Scottish Tourist Board. At the same time, honesty compels me to admit that you could not find a better place for your holiday if you wish good scenery and healthy sparkling air, not to mention our National Product.

A WOMAN'S WORK

I am neither pro nor anti feminist. Yet, I feel that many of the women in my districts get a very raw deal. Most of the men are on shift work. In many of the houses there are two or three men who are all on shifts. It seems to be the rule in such a case for them all to be on different shifts. Then, the lady of the house can become a slave chained to her cooker. Just think of how many meals she has to cook if she has three men all coming in at different times.

Because of shifts, women are faced with excess work. I can think of nothing worse. The ordinary household tasks are bad enough without increasing them. In addition, all this excess cooking is bad for health. Many times you hear a woman say, "I was so sick of cooking, I couldn't eat a thing." I have often seen obese women who have said that they never sat down to a meal. True, but they did not say how many cups of tea they had per day. The temptation, when one is always cooking, is just to have a cup of tea and a biscuit or a piece of bread. It is surprising how many women live on such a diet. Thus, they live on a diet which is deficient in balance and which, to add insult to injury, is very likely to cause obesity.

Shift work is necessary, I admit. But I do not see any necessity for men in the same household to be on different shifts. Surely they could go to work at the same time and come back at the same time, thus cutting down the number of meals necessary. If housewives had a union, I would feel they were within their rights to demand this. The only objection I can see is the possibility of an accident occurring in a pit. Still, I think this could be minimised by having relatives working in different shafts or parts of the mine. And, not all shift work is in pits, anyway.

So far, I have mentioned adults. What happens at the other end of life? Well, the housewife can get both ends of the stick. When I came here I found that the infant, junior and senior schools (in the same town or village, mark you) all had different holidays. If I had been a mother I would have objected very strenuously. The position has improved a bit. Now all the schools in each

Educational Division have the same holidays. But, this is not enough. Take for instance, the case of Bolsover. Bolsover is in the N.E. division but not a few Bolsover children go to school in Chesterfield which is an Excepted District. The result is different school holidays in some Bolsover households. To my mind, this is ridiculous.

As I have said above, the thought of extra work is abhorrent to me. When this extra work is prejudicial to health I become angry. Housewives arise, you have nothing to lose but the chains which bind you to your cooker.

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA

Area (acres)	21,922
Population (Census 1951)	43,112
Population mid-year (Registrar-General, 1959).....	43,600
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1959) according to Rate Books	13,499
Rateable Value, 1959	£376,471
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1959	£1,426

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Coal mining and to a less extent agriculture are the chief occupations of the district. Over 60% of the population are coal miners. There is very little unemployment.

Verminous Heads

86 treatments were given at the Disinfestation Centre to cases of verminous heads. They were from the parishes of Blackwell (58), South Normanton (26) and Shirebrook (2).

Scabies

11 treatments were given at the Disinfestation Centre this year. These treatments were given to three cases from the parish of Ault Hucknall.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

	Total	*Male*	*Female*
Live Births	803	422	381
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population. 17·8 (corrected).			
Still-births.	16	10	6
Still-births Rate per 1,000 live and still-births. 19·5.			
Total Live and Still-births	819	432	387
Infant Deaths	21	8	13
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			26·2
Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate			27.2
Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate			nil.
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births .... (Deaths in first four weeks).			16·2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births			3·5
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)			nil.
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still-births			nil.

COMMENTS

There were 44 more births this year than last and the Live Birth Rate (corrected) is also higher. I am very pleased to report these increases.

The number of Still-births and the Still-birth Rate are both appreciably lower than in 1958.

I am very pleased to report that the Infant Mortality Rate and the Neo-Natal Mortality are very much lower than in 1958. As last year, these rates are higher than the national ones but the difference is not nearly so great, viz. :—

	Blackwell	*England and Wales*
Infant Mortality Rate	26·2	22·2 (provisional)
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	16·2	15·8 (provisional)

There were no deaths in the infants born illegitimately.

Thirteen infants died under the age of 4 weeks. The causes of death were :—

Atelectasis and Prematurity	1
Prematurity	3
Congenital abnormality	7
Peritonitis	1
Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn	1

Eight infants died between the age of 4 weeks and one year. The causes of death were :—

Broncho pneumonia	2
Broncho pneumonia and congenital abnormalities	2
Sub. dural haemorrhage	1
Meningitis	1
Congenital heart lesion	1
Acute rheumatism	1

This year, congenital disease has been the most important, playing a part in virtually 50% of these 21 deaths. Prematurity and bronchopneumonia were implicated in 20%.

The death from acute rheumatism is worthy of comment. It occurred in a little girl aged two months and the diagnosis was confirmed by a post mortem. To say that this is a rarity is to be almost guilty of understatement.

Again, the only recommendation I can make concerning these infant and maternal deaths is the acceptance of ante-natal care. Every pregnant women should attend for ante-natal care. It may be difficult when she has other children but for her sake and for the baby's, it is well worth while.

As for the deaths from congenital abnormalities, I feel I must point out that research is going on into this subject. Some feel that it may become possible to treat the unborn child and thus attack some of these abnormalities. Of course, this will not happen in a day or two but it is still a wonderful aim and we can only pray that it will be achieved some time.

Finally, I am very glad to report that there have been no maternal deaths this year.

DEATHS	*Total*	*Male*	*Female*
	429	245	184

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12·3 (corrected). National Death Rate 11·6.

The total number of deaths and the corrected death-rate are both slightly lower than 1958.

CAUSES OF DEATH	*Male*	*Female*
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1
Cancer (stomach)	6	6
(Cancer (lung)	6	3
Cancer (breast)....	—	5
Cancer (uterus)	—	1
Cancer (other sites)	19	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—
Diabetes	—	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	30	35
Coronary disease, angina	37	17
Hypertension with heart disease	2	2
Other heart disease	34	31
Other circulatory disease	11	6
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	5	9
Bronchitis	21	12
Other disease of respiratory system	4	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	6	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—
Congenital Malformations	4	6
Other defined and ill defined diseases	35	27
Motor Vehicle accidents	6	1
All other accidents	6	4
Suicide	5	2

COMMENTS

The total number of deaths is less than last year (429 against 439). There has been a decrease of 15 in the number of male deaths and an increase of 5 in the female deaths.

There were more deaths from lung cancer this year (9 against 5) 6 of these were males and 3 were females.

Coronary thrombosis caused 7 more deaths this year. The sex ratio remains the same as in the last two years.

I am pleased to report that there were no deaths from tuberculosis this year.

Also, I am pleased to see no deaths from pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

However, it is not pleasing to record an increase in the number of accidental deaths (17 against 11). This is the second successive year in which the number of accidental deaths have increased. Allied to this there were 7 deaths by suicide. Thus there is a grand total of 24 deaths which can be looked at as preventable deaths. What a shocking waste of lives !

CAUSES OF DEATH

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	4	2	3	6	12
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	—	3
Syphilitic disease	—	—	1	—	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	1	—	1	1	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	—	—	1	1	—
Cancer, stomach	12	13	9	12	15	16
Cancer, lung	9	5	8	12	6	12
Cancer, breast	5	8	4	5	6	3
Cancer, uterus	1	4	1	2	4	4
Cancer, uterus	1	4	1	2	4	4
Cancer, other sites	30	35	49	44	33	40
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—	3	1	1	1
Diabetes	4	3	6	1	7	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous system	65	64	70	49	82	60
Coronary disease, angina	54	47	50	42	48	34

Hypertension with heart disease	4	4	5	6	4	6
Other heart disease	65	72	62	85	55	54
Other circulatory disease	17	16	15	22	18	10
Influenza	2	8	6	1	—	1
Pneumonia	14	33	20	26	18	11
Bronchitis	33	37	24	25	23	37
Other respiratory diseases	4	4	9	7	6	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	7	5	7	2	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	3	2	—	1	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	6	6	5	3	8	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	4	3	6	1	3
Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	—	1	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	10	5	5	7	3	8
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	62	44	48	54	58	47
Motor vehicle accidents	7	4	2	7	4	3
All other accidents	10	7	7	15	17	12
Suicide	7	2	—	6	4	4
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics

These are provided by the County Council.

Ambulance Service

This is provided by the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities

1. Analytical. This is provided by the County Council.
2. Bacteriological. This is provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

I thank both for their courtesy and efficiency.

Chest Clinics

Sheffield Regional Hospital Board provide such a clinic in Chesterfield, another is held at the Victoria Hospital, Worksop (Watson Road Clinic) and Mansfield hold one at Kings Mill Hospital.

Venereal Disease

Treatment and advice can be obtained at Derby Royal Infirmary, Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Victoria Hospital, Worksop, and Mansfield and District General Hospital.

REPORT FROM THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

Mr. Williams has kindly supplied the following report. I must thank him for his help and co-operation throughout the year.

1. WATER SUPPLY

(a) Pumping Stations

During the year 1,058,069,000 gallons of water were pumped from Budby of which some 727,488,000 gallons were re-pumped from Stoney Houghton to Whiteborough Reservoirs. Hours of pumping from Budby amounted to 8,620 out of a possible 8,784 and the average rate of pumping was 122,400 gallons.

Water was delivered in bulk to the following consumers :—

(i)	Blackwell R.D.C.	506,929,000	gallons.
(ii)	Warsop U.D.C.	148,137,000	,,
(iii)	Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board	106,455,000	,,
(iv)	Sutton-in-Ashfield U.D.C.	276,872,000	,,
(v)	Gleadthorpe Grange	974,000	,,
		1,039,367,000	,,

The difference of 18,702,000 between the total and the amount recorded as being pumped from Budby represents the discrepancy of the meters. This is 1.76% which is less than the maximum 2·5% variation to which manufacturers guarantee their instruments.

Electrical heating of both Nos. 1 and 2 Stations, Stoney Houghton and No. 2 Station, Budby, has been carried out. A new tiled floor has been laid in No. 3 Borewell, Budby. Two 140 Sodium lanterns have been fixed at Budby, one in the drive between Nos. 1 and 2 Stations and the other in the pumphouse yard of No. 1 Station.

No. 3 Surface Pump, Budby has had a major overhaul, including one new impellor and a new middle body. Very much better efficiencies have been observed since the completion of this work, reducing electricity costs by approximately £519 per annum.

The rotating element from No. 3 Pump, Stoney Houghton has been taken out and new parts including a new suction side impellor fitted. Systematic inspection is taking place every six months to check for further damage to the impellor.

No. 3 Bore Pump filter has been dismantled and examined internally by Insurance Inspector. It has been re-assembled and put to work again.

Damage, due to mining subsidence, has taken place during the year and the National Coal Board has accepted responsibility. A careful watch has been maintained on the extent of the damage and observations made by measurement and photographs. The Board estimate that 95% of movement has taken place.

Verticality tests have been carried out at regular intervals in Nos. 1, 2 and 3 boreholes, in connection with the above, but no appreciable movement from the original alignment has been noticed.

(b) Personnel

The tragic death of Mr. J. W. Bradbury, Assistant Station Engineer, Budby, took place in August, 1959. A new Assistant, Mr. F. Pearson was appointed.

(c) Rainfall

Total rainfall for the year was 24·37 inches and during this period there were some storms of very high intensity, namely Wednesday, 29th July—1·08 inches per hour and Thursday, 13th August—2·46 inches per hour. During the seven years 1951 to 1958, 32 storms having an intensity of 1″ inch per hour and over occurred in the District out of a total of 1,063 storms, 799 of which did not reach an intensity of a quarter of an inch per hour. The average duration of the two storms mentioned above lasted for 12½ minutes whilst the average duration of this type of storm during the previous seven years was 9 minutes.

(d) Pumping Main

A fracture of the 16″ pumping main due to mining subsidence between Stoney Houghton and Whiteborough took place in Batley Lane on the afternoon of 20th July. A claim was accepted by the National Coal Board.

(e) Reservoirs

Tightness tests were carried out on all reservoirs at Stoney Houghton and found to be in good order.

No. 4 Reservoir, Stoney Houghton, was emptied and the outlet valve repaired. The reservoir was chlorinated and put back into service.

A 140 watt Sodium lamp was fixed at Whiteborough Reservoirs. This effectively lights the area from the store shed to No. 2 Reservoir.

(f) Examination of Water

During the year 24 bacteriological examinations and 12 chemical analyses were carried out by the Public Analyst, with satisfactory results.

Daily sampling of water pumped took place and tests made for hardness and residual chlorine. The hardness of the water from No. 3 Borehole remains steady at 228 p.p.m. Residual chlorine figures are :—

Budby .... ·3 p.p.m.
Stoney Houghton .... ·3 p.p.m.
Whiteborough .... ·2 p.p.m.

Tests for chlorides in terms of chlorine took place daily from samples of water pumped. The count was steady at 80 p.p.m. from No. 3 Borehole.

Tests of samples of river water were also carried out daily, the daily, the count varying from 275 to 325 p.p.m.

Copies of graphs of chlorides were forwarded to the Ministry who expressed interest and pleasure and asked for observations to continue until the end of June, 1960.

It was found that radio-active tracer isotopes of Strontium 89 were being used in connection with experiments at Gleadthorpe Farm. Assurances were given by the Ministry that, due to the minute quantities being used, no risk of contamination existed. Nevertheless, arrangements were made to forward monthly samples of water to the Government Chemist for analysis.

(g) Night Tests

10 night tests were carried out during the year resulting in 126 burst or defective overflows being located.

(h) Meters

An additional 3 new meters were fixed in the District and 21 defective meters replaced.

(i) New Services

A total of 135 new services were installed.

(j) General Inspections

Water Inspectors made 36,044 inspections resulting in 710 defective notices being issued to owners. During the year 2,817 taps were washered, 16 service pipes repaired, 67 stop taps repaired or renewed, 152 inspections made of plumbers' work, 74 hydrants flushed and 14 bursts on Council's mains repaired.

(k) Mining Subsidence Claims Act 1957

Claims submitted under the above Act total 16 of which 13 were accepted by the National Coal Board and accounts totalling approximately £500 were rendered.

(l) Water Consumption

The daily average domestic consumption during the year was 22·7 gallons per head per day which was 1·2 higher than the previous year. Comparative figures are shown below :—

	1958/59	1959/60
Domestic	21·5	22·7
Trade	7·3	9·1
Total	28·8	31·8

(m) Mains Extensions

Water main extensions have been carried out as follows :—
Leamington Drive, South Normanton—344 lin. yds. 4″ diam. main.
244 ,, ,, 6″ ,, ,,
Terrace Lane, Pleasley (completion)—40 lin. yds. 4″ diam. main.

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Pleasley

A new Sewage Disposal Works, estimated to cost £30,000, is in course of construction at Common Lane, Pleasley. This will deal with the total flows from Pleasley and New Houghton. In order that the new works could be put in hand it was necessary to instal temporary pumps at the existing Lower Works and this was

undertaken by direct labour, the pump being taken from Shirebrook Sewage Works.

(b) Langwith

Following acceptance of claim on National Coal Board for damaged caused to Langwith Sewage Disposal Works, it was agreed to provide facilities in order that existing tanks could be examined without impairing the efficiency of the plant. Contracts were let for this work in the sum of £6,808, reimbursable. At the same time negotiations took place for the final repair work but a contract has not yet been let in this connection.

3. SEWERAGE

(a) Langwith

A scheme for the re-laying of defective 12″ diameter sewer between the "Jug and Glass' at Langwith and the Works is in course of preparation. This damage was caused by mining subsidence.

(b) Tibshelf

Approximately 280 yards of defective 9″ diameter sewer were re-laid in Staffa Street, Tibshelf at a cost of £1,666.

(c) Pleasley

The main outfall sewer from Meden Square to the Works was re-laid during the period at a cost of £1,400.

(d) Maintenance

Four men (2 in the Northern and 2 in the Southern Areas) were continuously employed in rodding, clearing and cleaning 1,135 manholes and 46 miles of sewers in Council's sewerage system.

(e) Pumping Stations

Sewage Pumping Stations on the sewerage system have received careful attention during the year and principal repairs have been as follows :—

4. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Damage due to vandalism continued at a high level and to the extent that Council decided to close the convenience at New Houghton on 23rd October.

5. DEVELOPMENT BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

56 houses were completed during the year and 66 improvement grants approved. 406 plans were received and examined for compliance with Building Byelaws and 12 valuations of properties undertaken in connection with advance under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

Negotiations have proceeded during the year with private developers in connection with development of estates, notably at Nightingale Avenue and Booth Avenue, Pleasley, Rowthorne Lane, Glapwell and Carter Lane, South Normanton.

Discussions have taken place with industrialists regarding the establishment of alternative industries in the District.

CONVERSIONS

Parish	*Pail Closets converted into water closets*
Pinxton	2
Scarcliffe	1
South Normanton	1
Tibshelf	5
Total	9

HOUSING

60 dwellings were completed by the Council and 84 were built privately. This gives a total of 144. I am sorry that this is a smaller number than 1958 when 215 were completed. The decrease is purely in Council building. There was an increase of 19 in the number built privately.

I must thank Mr. Wells, the Architect, for the following table which shows our past and future programme of Council building.

Parish	Dwellings completed 1st January, 1959 to 31st December, 1959			Dwellings completed 1st January, 1960 to 31st March, 1960			Dwellings in course of erection or contracts approved 31st March, 1960		
	Houses	Bungalows	Flats	Houses	Bungalows	Flats	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
Pinxton	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Shirebrook	2	12	—	8	—	4	—	—	—
South Normanton	4	—	8	30	—	4	36	24	—
Blackwell	14	12*	8	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Includes 2 Paraplegic Bungalows.

FACTORIES ACT

There are 135 factories registered in the Blackwell Rural District which are inspected from time to time, and action taken as is necessary. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	41	20	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	50	12	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	45	2	1
Total	135	34	3

2.—Cases in which **DEFECTS** were found.

Particulars	Number Found	Number Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(*a*) Insufficient	1	1	—	—
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—

3.—**OUTWORK.**

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	12	—
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	—	—
Nets, other than Wire Nets	—	—
Total	12	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

A report will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report about this aspect of Public Health.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

We had to take action in one case under this Act during 1959. It concerned an old lady of 77 who was living with her son. She was very frail and infirm. The conditions in the house were very insanitary and she was not receiving proper care and attention. While we were arranging to attend at Court, the lady's condition became very much worse and I had to take action under the Emergency Procedure as laid down in the Act. The result of this was that the lady was admitted to Scarsdale Hospital on 21st April for a period of three weeks on a magistrates order. On 6th May this order was extended for another three months by the Alfreton Bench of Magistrates. The same Bench granted a further extension on 29th July. Since then, the lady has remained in hospital as a voluntary patient.

When admitted to hospital, she was very weak and she became weaker. At one time it looked as though she would die. However, she recovered and became much better. I have visited her frequently since she was admitted and I am pleased to say that I think she is now as well as can be expected. I would like to thank the nursing staff for the care they have given to the old lady.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria

For the tenth successive year there was no case of diphtheria in the District. Again, I advise that we keep this up by immunisation. In this connection I am pleased to report that more children were immunised this year. This is shown by the following figures which Dr. Morgan (County M.O.H.) has kindly supplied.

	1959	1958	1957
Under 1 year	275	182	160
1—4 (incl).	111	66	81
5—14 (incl).	89	65	54
Total	475	313	295

Let us hope that these numbers continue to increase.

Scarlet fever

There were 105 cases. This is many more than last year when there were only 59. Fortunately, the disease continued to be very mild. Therefore, the increase in the number of cases does not really matter very much.

Poliomyelitis

It is nice to record that there were no cases of poliomyelitis in 1959. I still advise all who are eligible to accept vaccination against this illness. Vaccination can be had at County Council Clinics and at the Surgeries of General Practitioners.

Food Poisoning

For the third successive year there were no cases notified nor discovered.

Measles

As I have previously mentioned, measles is a biannual epidemic. One year there are few cases and the next there are many. This was our year of plenty and we had 341 cases as against 76 in 1958. However, this was not nearly as high as our last 'large year' when

we had 744 cases. These cases were notified throughout the year. There were roughly 100 cases in the first, second and fourth quarters and 50 cases in the third.

As expected the vast majority of cases were in young children ; there were only 7 cases above the age of 10 years.

Whooping cough

There were only 8 cases this year. Although there were so few this year, I still advise immunisation. Whooping cough can be a nasty debilitating illness and it can even by a killer. Immunisation does not confer 100% protection but it gives a good degree of protection and I am certain that it is well worthwhile.

Tuberculosis

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the diseases during the year—

Age Periods in years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	5	1	—	—	—	—	—

The phthisis death rate is nil per 1,000 of the population.

This table is better than last year. There were 12 new notifications against 17 in 1958. Last year I expressed the hope that there would be a reduction in the number of new cases. I am pleased to see my hope become reality. Further, I am delighted to report that there were no deaths from tuberculosis this year.

Number of new cases of tuberculosis :—

1955—15 1956—25 1957—34 1958—17 1959—12

Mass Radiography

From 1st to 7th December, 1959, the Nottingham Area No. 2 Mass Radiography Unit carried out a survey in Shirebrook. In the table below you will see the results of this survey. Like the Medical Director of the Unit, I am rather disappointed at the total number X-rayed. However, the Director feels that the cases discovered made the survey well worthwhile. This is the first visit paid to Shirebrook since I came in 1955. I do hope we shall have another visit in a shorter time and I hope we shall manage a greater total next time.

Miniature Films	Number X-rayed			X-rayed first time	
	Male	Female	Total	Number	%
General Public	387	398	785	545	69%

Large Films	Nil or No Action	Investigation	Did not come for	
			Large film	investigation
Male	7	4	4	—
Female	3	3	—	—

Clinical Examinations	Number	Remarks
Observation Pulmonary Tuberculosis	M 1 F 1	Referred to Chest Physician. Incidence : .25%
Observation (Non-Tb)	M 1 F 1	One referred to Chest Physician and one to own doctor.
? Pneumoconiosis	M 1	Referred to own doctor.
? Bronchiectasis	M 1	Referred to Chest Physician.
Pulmonary Fibrosis	F 1	No action required.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1959.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified													Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District									Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
	At all Ages	At Ages—years												Shirebrook	S. Normanton	Pinxton	Tibshelf	Blackwell	Pleasley	Scarcliffe	A. Hucknall	Glapwell		
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & upwards											
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	105	—	3	9	8	16	52	14	3	—	—	—	—	25	14	—	20	18	1	19	4	4	94	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	6	—	4	—	—	2	1	—	3	1	—	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	4	4	—	1	—	—	3	6	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cerebral-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, (Non ,,)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	341	9	22	34	27	53	189	6	1	—	—	—	—	96	36	2	6	63	3	106	13	16	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	—	2	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	484	10	29	44	35	70	249	20	4	7	4	12	—	132	50	2	32	90	4	135	19	20	97	—

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the department during the past year. Details of the work are set out in the following pages, with sectional headings, statistics and comments.

The general pattern has been similar to recent years with emphasis on the improvement of housing conditions and ensuring full inspection of all freshly killed meat which is still considerably in excess of the needs of this district. Good progress has been made with the Slum Clearance Programme prepared in July, 1955, and an increased amount of work has been done to encourage owners to repair and improve houses. A major job was completed towards the end of the year when the report of the survey of the Shirebrook Central Area was prepared and submitted. This survey necessitated the inspection and classification of 1,500 premises and arrangements were made for the report to be considered at a special meeting early in 1960.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, continues to receive attention, but there can be little hope of substantial progress in the reduction of domestic smoke until there is some change in the present position regarding Concessionary Coal for miners. The position regarding industrial smoke is generally satisfactory.

Littering of streets is a problem which is still a long way from being satisfactorily solved. The Litter Act, 1958, produced a slight improvement for a short time, but I think it fair comment to say that the majority of people have already forgotten it. To try and secure observance of the Act publicity has been increased, 129 litter bins have been fixed in various parishes, and the Police authorities were asked to co-operate with the District Council. So far there have been no reports of offences and no prosecutions, but it is still necessary to employ workmen to the extent of 12 man/hours on Sunday mornings to remove the worst litter from the main streets.

Two areas which for some time have been subject to flooding during storm periods have been improved, i.e., the National Coal Board has cleansed and re-graded part of the Blackwell Brook and removed a weir previously used in connection with the extraction of boiler feed water. The other improvement was at Pinxton Wharf, where a section of the River Erewash was cleansed.

The work of your Cleansing and Salvage Department has continued at a high level and in this sphere the work of the foremen and other employees is appreciated. The regularity of the collection service can only be maintained by a good deal of work being continued in bad weather.

In conclusion I should like to say thank you to Dr. Robertson and colleagues in other departments for their co-operation and assistance when required, to the Chairman and members of the Committee for their interest and encouragement in the work of the department, and to the staff of the department who have worked well together.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT CLARKSON, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

General Sanitation

Atmospheric Pollution	50
Water Supplies	195
Drainage	1,428
Drains tested	107
Stables and Piggeries	40
Accumulations	85
Colliery Spoilbanks	12
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	274
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	170
Fried Fish Shops	9
Tents, Vans and Sheds	85
Public Conveniences	48
Factories and Bakehouses	34
Refuse Collection	75
Refuse Disposal	98
Street Cleansing	114
Rats and Mice	987
Schools	14
Cinemas	27
River Pollution Prevention	53
Shop Acts	134
Petroleum Acts	234
Smoke Observations	12
Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease	144
Interviews and Appointments	1,521
Miscellaneous Visits	994

Housing :

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	349
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	1,549
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	112
Re-visits to houses inspected under Housing Acts	1,200
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	7
Re-visits paid to houses re overcrowding	8
Number of verminous houses inspected.	97
Re-visits to above houses	94

Miscellaneous Housing Enquiries	251
Shirebrook Housing Survey—Inspections	707
Re-inspections	1,326

Meat and Food Inspection :

Visits to Slaughterhouses	3,231
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	111
Street Vendors and Hawker's Carts	948
Other Food Premises	411
Milk Distribution	69
Ice Cream Premises	64
Canteens, Cafes, etc.	7

Miscellaneous :

Salvage	49

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH

	Served during 1959	Complied with during 1959	Outstanding on 31/12/59
Informal Public Health Act Notices	514	566	266
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	18	20	7
Informal Housing Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices	—	1	—
	532	587	273

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Dwelling Houses :

Cleansed	9
Vermin Disinfestation	58
Windows repaired	151
Walls rendered free from dampness	103
Plasterwork repaired	98
Floors re-laid or repaired	68
Woodwork renewed or repaired	60
Fireplaces and grates repaired	70
Cooking facilities improved	70

Kitchen boilers repaired or improved	74
Food stores improved	18
Coal stores improved	30
Washing accommodation provided or improved	6
Roofs repaired	112
Walls pointed and brickwork repaired	103
Chimney stacks repaired	72
Damp proof course provided	1
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	75
Yards and passages paved or repaired	61
Yards cleansed	6
Living vans removed	28
Baths provided	60

Drainage :

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired	41
Drains cleansed	135
Gullies provided or repaired	8
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	30
Ventilators repaired	7
Premises drained by provision of cesspool	5
Cesspools repaired	3
Cesspools abolished	1
Drains connected to sewer	2
Septic tank and filter provided	4

Sinks :

New sinks provided	37
New sink waste pipes provided	38
Sink waste pipes repaired	5

Closet Accommodation :

Buildings repaired	51
Closets cleansed	4
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired	27
Water closet pedestals renewed or repaired	32
Water closet service pipes repaired	21
Closet pails renewed	1

Miscellaneous :

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished	5
Accumulations removed	25
Urinals provided, repaired and cleansed	9
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	3
Other nuisances abated	9

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Progress in the conversion of pail closets is now slow and is mainly held up by the lack of satisfactory sewerage in Astwith, Stainsby and Rowthorne. Schemes for improvements in these hamlets are well in hand and it is hoped the difficulties at Astwith will be solved at an early date. Pail closets in other parts of the district are either at isolated properties or serve properties marked for 'demolition.'

Nine pail closets have been converted making a total of 2,386 since 1950. This leaves 210 pail closets still in use—details are set out below :—

Parish	Pail Closets converted to water closets during 1959	Pail Closets in use on 31/12/59
Ault Hucknall	—	69
Blackwell	—	55
Glapwell	—	1
Pleasley	—	17
Pinxton	2	17
Scarcliffe	1	11
Shirebrook	—	6
South Normanton	1	12
Tibshelf	5	22
	9	210

HOUSING

The erection of new houses has continued at a reasonable rate, a total of 144 (60 Council houses and 84 private houses), being completed during the year. This is the first time, for many years, that private building has exceeded the houses erected by the

District Council. This has facilitated the work of re-housing families from Clearance Areas and from houses subject to demolition —66 families (194 persons) having been moved from unfit houses to new and existing Council houses.

Cases of overcrowding have increased from 12 to 13 (2 new cases and 1 case abated by removal to a Council house). Most of the remaining cases need four bedrooms, and whilst there are a few such Council houses, they are insufficient in number to allow for the abatement of all cases. Few complaints are now received regarding overcrowding and generally the number of houses being used by two or more families is considerably less than a few years ago.

Progress has been satisfactory on the implementation of the Slum Clearance Programme approved in July 1955. During the year 54 houses were represented as being unfit, including 31 houses in 2 Clearance Areas. Since the commencing of the programme 295 unfit houses have been dealt with.

The survey of the Central Area of Shirebrook, commenced in March, 1958, has been completed and a report was submitted dated 31st December, 1959, for consideration by the Committee early in 1960. For this survey 1,415 houses and 85 other buildings have been examined and recommendations submitted which could result in the demolition of 480 houses and the extensive repair and improvement of 457 houses. More detailed reference will be made to this survey in the 1960 report.

Although no actual work of repair and improvement has taken place the Council's decision to purchase and re-condition sub-standard property in Park Lane, Pinxton, still holds good. Whilst this is disappointing negotiations have proceeded throughout the year and it is generally considered better progress could have been achieved with a little more co-operation and understanding on the part of the Ministry. Let us hope the delays will be ended early in 1960, and thus enable these essential repairs and improvements to proceed.

Applications for Improvement Grants continue to be dealt with by the Engineer's Department, following consultations with the Health Department as to the suitability of the property for improvement. During the year 85 Grants have been approved in respect of

90 houses. The major portion of these are from owner/occupiers.

Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954—Certificates of Disrepair :

Number issued during 1959	—
Total issued since operation of Act	163
Number revoked during 1959	11
Number revoked since operation of Act	129

There are 23 Certificates still operative, some which were issued in 1954.

Rent Act, 1957—Certificates of Disrepair :

Number of applications received during 1959	7
Number of applications received since operation of Act	68
Number of Certificates issued during 1959	1
Number of Certificates issued since operation of Act.	24
Number of Certificates cancelled during 1959	2

Statistical Summaries of Housing work are set out below :—

A. Inspection of Dwelling Houses :

1. (*a*) No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Public Health and Housing Acts)	561
(*b*) No. of inspections made for this purpose	3,210
2. (*a*) No. of dwelling houses (included under 1*a*) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	54
(*b*) No. of Inspections made for this purpose	1,312
3. No. of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation	54

B. Remedy of Defective Dwelling Houses :

1. Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	188
2. Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice.	
Houses in which defects were remedied :	
(*a*) By owners	17
(*b*) By local authority in default of owners	—

3. Housing Act, 1957—action after service of formal notice (Section 9 ; 10 ; 11 and 16) :
   Houses made fit :
   (*a*) By owners 1
   (*b*) By local authority in default of owners .... —

C. Overcrowding

Parish	No. of Houses Overcrowded on 31/12/59	Cases of Overcrowding abated during 1959	No. of Persons affected by abatement
Ault Hucknall	2	—	—
Blackwell	2	—	—
Glapwell	—	—	—
Pleasley	—	—	—
Pinxton	4	—	—
Scarcliffe	1	—	—
Shirebrook	—	—	—
South Normanton	4	1	8
Tibshelf	—	—	—
	13	1	8

D. Houses subject to Demolition and Closing Orders :

Parish	Still occupied	Vacant and awaiting Demolition	Total
Ault Hucknall	1	4	5
Blackwell	2	5	7
Glapwell	—	—	—
Pleasley	—	2	2
Pinxton	20	—	20
Scarcliffe	21	9	30
Shirebrook	11	8	19
South Normanton	80	42	122
Tibshelf	21	2	23
	156	72	228

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

There has been an increase in the amount of work under this heading, a total of 64 cases being dealt with compared with 32 during 1958. This has necessitated 192 inspections and re-inspections. A summary of this work is given below :—

Bed Bugs

No. of Council houses disinfested	2
No. of private premises disinfested	17

Cockroaches

No. of Council houses disinfested	17
No. of private houses disinfested	8
No. of business premises disinfested	4

Other Vermin

No. of private houses dealt with for ant infestation	2
No. of Council houses dealt with for clover mite infestation	3
No. of premises sprayed for other vermin (wasps, silver fish, etc.)	5
No. of premises sprayed as a precautionary measure	6
	64

The whole of this work has been carried out by the Council's trained staff, the following methods being used :—

Cockroaches—Floor boards removed near fireplaces, skirtings, etc., eased and generally sprayed with Gammexane Powder (D.034) using a pump. Towards the end of the year treatment of cockroaches was being gradually changed to spraying with Gamodex, containing Dieldrin.

Ants and Crickets—Spraying with Gamodex containing Dieldrin

Bed Bugs and Other Vermin—Spraying with Gammexane Liquid (L.044).

Clover Mite—This is the 2nd year Clover Mite has persisted in certain new Council houses. The property and surrounds have been sprayed with Malathion, using a wettable powder. Re-inspections towards the end of the year showed that this work had not been completely successful and after consultation with the Pests Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, arrangements were made for further spraying with Malathion during 1960.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

The importance of examining all freshly killed meat has continued to be a priority with the Department and it is satisfying to be able to report that 100% inspection was again achieved. There has been some improvement in the hours of slaughter, but it is still necessary to mainain a rota of Inspectors to undertake additional duties on evenings after 5 p.m., on Saturday afternoons, and Sundays.

All inspection work is carried out in accordance with Memo. 3/Foods, and it has resulted in the condemnation of 26 tons of meat and offal. This is a decrease of slighty more than 1 ton compared with the previous year.

There are 15 private slaughterhouses (2 of which conduct a wholsesale business), and the inspection of 48,264 animals (an increase of 8,116 compared with the previous year) has taken up quite a good proportion of the Department's time. Since the de-control of meat, the slaughter of animals has continued at a rate considerably in excess of the needs of the district, and consignments are regularly despatched to wholesale meat markets and to retail butchers in several adjoining local districts.

No. of Animals slaughtered and examined :

	Cattle ex-cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Tibshelf	1872	715	48	7558	5335	—	15528
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Pleasley	1459	350	11	15844	7752	—	25416
Other Private Slaughterhouses (North)	348	35	2	1270	1092	—	2747
Other Private Slaughterhouses (South)	339	354	9	2157	1714	—	4573
	4018	1454	70	26829	15893	—	48264

Condemnation of Carcases and Offal

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned	3	5	4	39	14	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1358	523	—	628	757	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and Cysticerci	33.87	36.31	5.71	2.48	4.85	—
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	6	2	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	170	218	—	—	191	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.38	15.13	—	—	1.20	—
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The meat and offal condemned amounted to 26 tons 5 cwts. 101 lbs., and in addition it has also been necessary to deal with 1,612 tons of unfit food. There has been a slight decrease in the number of cattle affected with Tuberculosis, which is undoubtedly due to an increase in the number of Attested Herds. The increase in the number of cattle affected with non-tubercular conditions is chiefly

acounted for by the large increase in the number of bovine livers affected by Distomatosis (Liver Fluke).

Details of carcases affected with Localised Cysticercus Bovis and dealt with by cold storage, are set out below :—

1959	....	5 cases.
1958	....	12 cases.
1957	....	21 cases.
1956	....	5 cases.

All condemned meat and offal is stained green and disposed of by manufacture into animal feeding stuffs and fertilizers, except in two instances. At one wholesale slaughterhouse flukey livers are sent for mink feeding after staining and at the other wholesale slaughterhouse flukey livers (unstained) are retained in cold store and disposed of for pharmaceutical purposes.

At the two large wholesale slaughterhouses unsound meat is removed daily, and the butchers credited with the salvage value. At other slaughterhouses where there are substantial amounts for removal these are collected by the salvage firm and the value credited direct to the butcher. Small amounts of unfit offal are collected in the department's van and delivered to the processing plant. Where this takes place the salvage payment is made to the District Council as part payment for the removal service.

These arrangements have operated smoothly and without complaint.

A summary of the food condemned is set out below :—

Condemnations for Tuberculosis :

Beef	5,255 lbs.	Veal	—
Beef Offal	10,798 lbs.	Veal Offal	—
Pork	2,095 lbs.	Mutton	—
Pork Offal	212 lbs.	Mutton Offal	—

Condemnations for Cysticercus Bovis :

Beef	30 lbs.	Beef Offal	165 lbs.

Condemnations for diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis :

Beef	3,768 lbs.	Mutton	2,346 lbs.
Beef Offal	25,539 lbs.	Mutton Offal	2,038 lbs.
Pork	4,053 lbs.	Veal	127 lbs.
Pork Offal	2,749 lbs.	Veal Offal	21 lbs.

LICENSED SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Up to the 31st July, 1959, 15 private slaughterhouses were licensed, but on renewal for the period commencing 1st August, 1959, to 31st July, 1960, one licence was discontinued, leaving 14 licensed slaughterhouses. Of these only 13 are in regular use.

Generally these slaughterhouses have been maintained in a satisfactory condition with the exception of drainage and sewage effluent difficulties at the Pleasley Wholesale Slaughterhouse, and odd complaints which have arisen (chiefly due to noise), where slaughterhouses are in close proximity to privately occupied houses. It is a source of deep concern that the new Slaughterhouse Construction Regulations have no reference to the situation of slaughterhouses in relation to dwelling houses. No matter how carefully the business is conducted, if dwelling houses are immediately adjoining (although outside the curtilage of the slaughterhouse), it is inevitable that at some time the occupiers of these houses must suffer inconvenience as a result of the slaughtering operations.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933—54

Number of licences issued (including 2 to new applicants to work under the supervision of an experienced licensed man) 62

FOOD PREMISES

There are 480 food premises within the district. A classified schedule of these is set out below :

Business	Tibshelf	Pinxton	South Normanton	Blackwell	Ault Hucknall	Glapwell	Pleasley	Scarcliffe	Shirebrook	Total
Ice Cream Manufacturers	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Canteens, Cafes and Restaurants	2	3	2	5	3	1	3	6	7	32
Meals Served	2	4	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	14
Bakehouses	3	1	4	1	—	—	1	—	1	11
Butchers Shops and Making Up Rooms	4	6	7	3	—	—	1	4	12	37
Confectionery, Bread and Cakes	3	3	3	—	1	—	—	3	11	24
Fish Friers	2	4	6	3	2	—	—	2	5	24
Grocers	5	8	14	5	—	1	4	10	22	69
Wet Fish and Greengrocers	2	1	6	—	—	—	—	3	8	20
Mixed Business	13	23	25	22	11	6	9	22	24	155
Public Houses	8	10	16	10	3	2	4	14	15	82
Corn Merchants	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Market Stalls	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	9
TOTAL ...	44	64	89	53	20	10	22	64	114	480

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947

The majority of the ice cream sold in the area is pre-packed and there has been an increase of 23 in the number of premises retailing this class of ice cream. All registered premises are inspected and vans used in the area are also examined from time to time. A total of 33 samples have been examined and only one was placed in Grade IV. No other contraventions of the Regulations have been noted.

Premises registered :

(*a*)	Manufacture and sale of ice cream	2
(*b*)	Sale of ice cream	3
(*c*)	Sale of pre-packed ice cream....	169
		174

Results of ice cream samples :

Ice Cream	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grqde IV	Total
Complete Cold Mix	3	1	1	—	5
Pasteurised	6	3	3	1	13
Pre-packed	6	4	1	—	11
Total	15	8	5	1	29

In addition to the above samples, 2 samples of ice cream have been submitted for analysis and the fat content reported to be satisfactory, and 2 iced lollies have also been examined and found to be satisfactory.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES FOR PREPARATION OF PRESERVED FOOD, etc.

There are 22 premises within the district registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the preparation/ manufacture of sausages, preserved food, etc.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

A detailed survey of all food premises was commenced in 1956 and whilst further progress has been made, the pressure of work in other spheres has slowed the rate of progress. Up to the present 290 premises have had detailed inspections, which have been followed up with the service of notices and a lot of improvement work has taken place. Premises still requiring survey are chiefly small mixed shops of which there are a large number in an area of this character. Since commencement of this work 102 preliminary notices have been served, of which 86 have been fully complied with, in the other cases work was in hand at the end of the year.

It is the policy of the department to press for washing facilities on all vans used for the sale and distribution of food, notwithstanding the weakness of the Regulations in this respect. A good deal of progress has been achieved, one trader has discontinued using a van after his attention was drawn to unsatisfactory conditions, and as old vans are replaced, new vans are being provided with the essential facilities.

Two written warnings, following reports to Health Committee, have been given in respect of smoking in food shops. Licensed premises continue to be improved at a reasonable rate—4 reconstruction schemes have been completed during the year.

A summary of improvements is given below :—

Internal water supplies provided	1
Hot water supplies provided	3
New Sinks provided	9
New Washbasins provided	19
Premises cleansed	13
Notices re "washing hands"	1
Drainage improved	1
Floors, walls, ceilings, etc., repaired or renewed	28
Fixtures provided or improved	13
Increased protection for open food	16
Improved storage for waste	3
First-aid kits provided	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	4
Rodent and insect proofing carried out	10
Clothes storage improved	3
Closet accommodation improved	1
Refrigeration improved	2

I must again draw attention to the continuance of the Shirebrook Open Air Market. This is privately owned and a small number of traders sell all types of good from open stalls. Whilst these are closely supervised and many improvements have taken place, the sale of open food under these conditions can never be accepted as satisfactory. In these cases the existing Regulations are far too weak.

After some delay and long negotiations with the Planning Authority, a kiosk has now been fixed on the market for the use of stall-holders. This kiosk is fitted with hot and cold water supplies, wash basin and sink, and in this respect is a great improvement on previous improvised arrangements by individual traders.

MILK DISTRIBUTION

The sale of loose and raw milk has been prohibited in this area

since January 1955. The supervision of the distribution of milk has resulted in 69 inspections being made and 50 samples have been submitted for examination.

There are 59 registered distributors of milk and one dairy within the district, and three farmers retail their own T.T. milk. The dairy is a pasteurisation plant at Pleasley and Pleasley Hill Co-operative Society Limited and is under the supervision of the Derbyshire County Council. The County Council has examined 37 samples of milk pasteurised at this dairy, all of which satisfied the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949 :

Numbers of dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested milk)....	34
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested Milk)	2

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 :

Number of dealers' licences (Pasteurised Milk)	38
Number of dealers' licences (Sterilised Milk)	22
Number of Supplementary Dealers' licences (Pasteurised Milk)	2
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Sterilised Milk)	2

MILK SAMPLES

Tuberculin Tested Milk

Methylene Blue Test	10 satisfactory. 1 unsatisfactory.
Biological Test	11 satisfactory.

Pasteurised Milk

Methylene Blue Test	12 satisfactory.
Phosphatase Test	15 satisfactory.

Sterilised Milk

Turbidity Test	1 satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 :

The Food & Drugs Authority for this area is the Derbyshire County Council and the County Analyst has very kindly supplied the following statement :—

"During the year 131 samples, including 50 Milks, were taken under the above Act in the area of the Blackwell Rural District Council.

Milk samples were satisfactory with the exception of one sample of T.T. Channel Island Pasteurised Milk, retailed by a Dairy Company, which failed to reach the standard of 4 per cent fat content for milk sold under this description. The Diary Company was cautioned and details supplied to the Ministry in accordance with the request contained in Circular FSH 4/56.

Samples of Plain Flour—two informal samples followed by formal samples—were deficient in Vitamin B1 and the packers were cautioned. Eight samples of Canned Luncheon Meat were reported as deficient in meat content. There is no official standard at present and in these circumstances the irregularities were also dealt with by caution notice.

A sample of Canned Prunes in Syrup was seriously contaminated with tin. Further stocks were not held at the premises concerned but the finding led to additional sampling of the brand in question at other premises. The investigation extended into 1960 and some stocks had to be condemned as unfit for sale.

The remaining samples were classed as genuine."

A schedule giving details of the water supplies to dwelling houses is set out below. From this it will be noted that 13,468 houses (99·77%) are provided with a piped supply of district water, 20 houses (·15%) are provided with district water by means of external stand pipes and 11 houses (·08%) have to rely on wells for their water supply.

Water Supplies

Parish	No. of houses supplied with district water direct to houses	Population (estimated)	No. of houses supplied with district water from stand pipes	Population (estimated)	No. of houses using wells, etc.	Population (estimated)
Pinxton	1,466	5,126	—	—	—	—
South Normanton	2,182	6,669	18	72	—	—
Tibshelf	1,153	3,137	1	2	—	—
Blackwell	1,298	4,352	1	1	—	—
Shirebrook	3,443	9,890	—	—	6	18
Scarcliffe	2,188	7,586	—	—	—	—
Ault Hucknall	502	2,338	—	—	1	2
Glapwell	473	1,289	—	—	—	—
Pleasley	763	2,619	—	—	4	11
	13,468	43,006	20	75	11	31

The majority of the houses with external stand pipes are now subject to Demolition Orders.

WATER SUPPLY

The Water supply of the district has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. From the table on Water Supplies it will be noted all premises except 11 houses with a population of 31 are provided with district piped water, a very satisfactory position for a rural district. All water supplies are systematically sampled and special attention is paid to the well supplies. Every effort is being made to improve the well supplies, most of which can only be classed as "unreliable in quality" although no difficulty has been experienced with quantity.

WATER SAMPLES	*Bacteriological Examination*	*Chemical Analysis*
District Supplies	96 satisfactory	16 satisfactory
Other district supplies	11 satisfactory 3 unsatisfactory.	1 satisfactory
Well and spring supplies	14 satisfactory 16 unsatisfactory	1 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT :

During the year 69 complaints have been investigated, many of which have been minor infestations by mice. These have been mostly dealt with by advising occupiers and making available (at cost) suitable poisons. Investigating these complaints, making inspections and treating premises including sewer manholes has necessitated 987 inspections and visits. There has been no serious infestation by rats.

Following notification by the Ministry of Agriculture of the termination of the Contract System for the treatment of farms, farmers were informed that the District Council would carry out treatment as required on a cost basis. Some have taken advantage of this service, whilst others are employing commercial service firms. This department is now undertaking regular inspection of farm premises.

The District Council have two employees who have had Ministry training and they undertake work, as required, under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors, but they are not

employed full time on this work. Regular six monthly treatment of sewer manholes continues.

Summary of Work Done :

Council Premises

Number of premises examined	248
Number of premises treated by use of Warfarin bait for rat and mouse infestation	21
Number of Council houses treated by use of Warfarin bait for rat and mouse infestation	11
Number of premises treated by use of Zinc Phosphide for rat and mouse infestation	26
Number of premises treated by use of dogs and ferrets for rat infestation	1

Private Premises :

Number of private and business premises treated by use of Warfarin bait for rat and mouse infestation	31

Sewer Manholes :

Number test baited	214
Number baited with poison	40

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951 :

Number of premises licensed	1

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are no recognised camping grounds and the control of individual vans to prevent duplication of licences, etc., continues to be exercised under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937—48

During the year 34 inspections were made and 3 notices complied with. A summary of improvements effected is given below :—

Provision of sanitary accommodation for building site....	1
Improvement of sanitary accommodation	1
Improvement of Means of Escape in Case of Fire	1

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928—36

Number of licensed premises 44

Inspections arising from the detailed survey undertaken in connection with the adoption of new conditions for the issue of licences for the storage of petrol, to comply with the recommendations in Home Office Circular No. 84/47, as from 1st January, 1958, have continued in excess of previous years. A total of 234 inspections have been necessary including the testing of 2 old tanks.

The increased supervision has resulted in improvements at 15 licensed premises in order to bring them within the provisions of the new licensing conditions. As a direct result of the more stringent conditions now imposed, 6 premises have discontinued the storage of petrol.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Clean Air Act, 1956, has continued to receive attention throughout the year and the Council has continued to support the National Society for Clean Air and the North East Derbyshire Clean Air Joint Consultative Committee. Three atmospheric Pollution Stations, each having deposit gauges and lead peroxide instruments, are in operation, and support is given to the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies on Atmospheric Pollution.

In consequence of the work carried out during this and previous years, there has been little complaint in respect of industrial smoke, a very large percentage of these boilers are now automatically fired.

The difficulty in connection with the use of 'concessionary' coal continues, and there has been no amendment of the Health Committee's decision in June, 1958, to take no steps in respect of domestic smoke until there is a more workable solution than the present 'buy-back' system in respect of miners' 'concessionary' coal. It is regretted, therefore, that no satisfactory progress can be recorded in the reduction of domestic smoke.

Colliery Spoilbanks have continued to receive regular supervision and have generally been maintained in a satisfactory condition and free from nuisance.

In many cases the improved arrangements for disposal secured a few years ago, have been of immense value in this direction.

MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Three atmospheric pollution recording stations are in operation at South Normanton, Shirebrook and Glapwell, each having a soot deposit gauge and lead peroxide instrument. The first readings were taken in February, 1957, and the monthly averages of the first 3 years working were :—

	Deposit Gauge (Tons per sq. mile)	*Lead Peroxide (MG.SO2 per sq. c.m. per day)*
Hamlet Lane, South Normanton		
1957	10·1	1·55
1958	10·1	1·7
1959	9·9	1·44
Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook		
1957	12·7	1·5
1958	14·9	1·8
1959	12·9	1·6
Glapwell Hill		
1957	15·3	1·3
1958	21·2	1·0
1959	16·1	0·9

Monthly readings for 1959 are recorded as follows :

SOOT DEPOSIT GAUGES

These record the solid matter deposited in the area around the instrument, giving readings in TONS per SQUARE MILE per MONTH.

Month	Deposited Matter—Tons per square mile.		
	Hamlet Lane, South Normanton	Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook	Glapwell Hill
January	7.08	14.04	34.03
February	5.87	17.61	7.68
March	11.34	16.54	16.61
April	11.88	16.77	14.13
May	12.89	12.34	18.73
June	12.59	12.74	17.95
July	6.88	6.07	16.51
August	15.40	9.74	21.85
September	9.40	9.64	10.87
October	8.80	11.41	10.20
November	8.32	17.14	14.70
December	8.16	11.31	9.6 0
Monthly Average	9.88	12.94	16.07

LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS

These are specially coated cylinders which record the amount of sulphur in the atmosphere. The readings represent milligrams per square centimetre per day. These sulphur readings, due to the position of the instruments, reflect to a large extent the degree of pollution from domestic sources, i.e., the open fires of private householders.

Month	SO3—Milligrams per 100 sq. c.m. per day		
	Hamlet Lane, South Normanton	Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook	Glapwell Hill
January	2.33	2.53	1.84
February	2.25	2.14	1.26
March	1.82	1.55	0.89
April	1.44	1.55	0.95
May	1.38	1.04	0.52
June	0.95	1.21	0.56
July	0.75	0.90	0-44
August	1.06	1.12	0.48
September	1.49	1.11	0.64
October	1.55	1.50	0.74
November	2.37	2.61	1.31
December	1.92	2.12	1.20
Monthly Average	1.44	1.61	0.90

SHOP ACTS

During the year 134 inspections have been made. No special circumstances worthy of note were recorded.

LICENSED PREMISES

The survey of these premises has continued with a view to securing improved sanitary accommodation in compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, etc.

During the year 4 licensed premises have been brought up to standard, 2 of which have been almost completely re-designed. In another case, major alterations are in progress.

SHIREBROOK MARKET

The privately owned open-air Market continues to be held in Shirebrook on Friday of each week, and is referred to under the heading 'Food Hygiene Regulations.'

COMPLAINTS

A total of 586 complaints were received and investigated (254 at the South Normanton Office and 332 at the Shirebrook Office).

The majority of these complaints were found to be fully justified. A summary of them is set out below :—

Housing Defects	121
Drainage Defects	174
Sanitary Conveniences	40
Dirty and Verminous Premises	51
Refuse Collection	28
Rats and Mice	69
Keeping of Animals	10
Accumulations	15
Other Matters	78

ASHBINS—SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF

The Scheme adopted as from the 1st April, 1951, for the renewal of defective ashbins as a general rate charge, has continued to work smoothly. Details of the bins provided since this scheme commenced are set out as follows :—

Year	*Ashbins Provided*
1951—52	1,064
1952—53	1,006
1953—54	1,030
1954—55	1,538
1955—56	1,766
1956—57	1,714
1957—58	1,388
1958—59	1,437
1959—60	748

The number of new bins issued this year is the lowest recorded since this scheme was commenced in 1951. It is only slightly in excess of 50% of the bins issued during the preceding year. The big decrease in the issue of bins may be due to the fact that the majority of houses are now provided with B.S.S. standard bins, and the quality of these bins is being reflected in the smaller number of replacements required.

When this scheme was first commenced it was realized that in order to prevent neglect and misuse of bins provided free by the Council, it would be necessary to keep a careful check on issues, and it was decided that with reasonable care each bin should have a useful life of approximately 10 years. Where renewals are required in less than 10 years an investigation is made as to whether this is due to misuse, and during the past year it has been found that 11 bins have become defective as a result of neglect or misuse, and the sum of £6 9s. 0d. has been recovered as compensation before the issue of new bins.

The cost of the bins issued this year amounted to £1,216 2s. 11d.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection and disposal of refuse is dealt with by direct labour in the whole of the rural district.

Collection and Disposal

This work, which is undertaken by motor transport (details of vehicles below), has resulted in the removal of 5,982 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 47,361 miles.

One S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper (16 cub. yds.) supplied June, 1959—Diesel engine.

One S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper (16 cub. yds.) supplied January, 1958—Diesel engine.

One S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper (16 cub. yds.) supplied April, 1955—Diesel engine.

One S. & D. Freighter (11.3 cub. yds.) supplied April, 1953.

One S. & D. Freighter (11·3 cub. yds.) supplied September, 1951.

One S. & D. Freighter (9 cub. yds.) supplied April, 1952.

One S. & D. Freighter (11·3 cub. yds.) supplied July, 1949.

During the year another S. & D. Fore and Aft, with Perkins P.6 Diesel Engine has been added to the fleet of vehicles and in consequence an old Karrier Bantam was sold in October, 1959 and one S. & D. side loading freighter was taken off refuse collection and retained solely for use on soil removal on tips and other similar rough work. For this purpose, the sliding covers, etc., were removed.

Number of Premises served

Ashbins	14,219 (cleansed weekly)
Ashplaces, etc.	8 (cleansed monthly)
Closet Pails	210 (cleansed weekly)
Cesspools	123 (cleansed quarterlu)
Septic Tanks	20 (as required).

It is standard practice to remove domestic refuse weekly and with few exceptions this regularity has been maintained. Whilst the recruitment of labour is not so difficult as it was a few years ago, it is still extremely difficult to secure good and reliable workers. There are far too many changes among the ashbin-men, and generally the reliability of this work depends on a nucleus of men who have been with the department for many years.

Absenteeism, chiefly due to certified sickness and accidents, was 10·4%, compared with 8·14% last year. This represents 11,989 working hours—equivalent to the loss of 272½ weeks or 5 men for 1 year. This is a subject for serious concern and whilst a large proportion is due to genuine sickness and to the fact that a small number of the employees suffer from chronic conditions, many medical certificates still continue to be obtained with the greatest of ease for the most trivial conditions.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping, with the maximum recovery of salvageable materials, and muledozers are used for consolidation and control of the tips. Generally it is difficult to obtain suitable and sufficient material for the immediate covering of the refuse, but on all sites top soil is stripped and stacked so that on completion the surface can be restored.

In the past, refuse in this area has had a large ash and cinder content so that immediate covering has not been so essential. It is, however, noted that the character of the refuse is gradually changing and that at present it is lighter and there is what the workmen describe as "more rubbish". This is without doubt due to improved and modern fire ranges and the use of less coal for heating and cooking. As this continues it may be necessary to pay more attention to the covering of refuse immediately it is tipped.

During the year refuse has been disposed of as follows :—

1. Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook—1,742 loads—this site will be filled at an early date. Extension or an alternative site is become a matter of extreme urgency.
2. Disused Railway Cutting, Rowthorne—462 loads (total at this site since commencement in September, 1957 (1,046 loads).
3. Hillstown Tip—207 loads.
4. Wharf Road, Pinxton—513 loads.
5. B'Winning Welfare Playing Fields—480 loads (8,367 loads since work commenced on improvement of these Playing Fields).
6. Birchwood Lane (Bateman), South Normanton—598 loads.
7. Newton Wood (Ball)—600 loads.
8. Manor Farm, Tibshelf—Work has proceeded on the completion of this tip by soiling and seeding for handing back to the owners.

All cleansing employees are now provided with protective clothing consisting of two pairs of overalls per year, gloves as required and donkey jackets every 2/4 years as needed. The South Normanton Depot has adequate toilet, washing and mess room facilities, with a drying room for clothing.

Work at Shirebrook on the provision of a new garage, workshop for paper baling and other salvage operations, and the provision of a mess room, etc., is now well in hand. These facilities have been urgently needed for many years.

CLEANSING VEHICLES

Following are details of the work performed by each vehicle, and the comparative running cost of each vehicle :—

Lorry	Mileage			Loads Removed			No. of other journey
	Cleansing	Salvage	Total	Refuse	Night Soil	Cesspool contents	
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 729	6,074	312	6,386	1,031	—	—	46
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 730	2,346	142	2,488	304	1	—	99
S. & D. Freighter (1952) RRB 300	6,805	532	7,337	205	103	628	108
Karrier Bantam (1946) JRB 68	34	11	45	—	—	—	54
S. & D. Fore and Aft Diesel (1959) 851 KRA	4,143	403	4,546	759	—	—	54
S. & D. Freighter (1951) RNU 378	4,502	1,470	5,972	655	1	—	242
S. & D. Freighter (1953) TNU 478	4,473	371	4,844	185	49	515	74
S. & D. Fore and Aft Diesel (1955) XRA 56	7,152	626	7,778	803	—	—	149
S. & D. Fore and Aft Diesel (1958) 502 FRA	7,307	658	7,965	743	—	—	86
	42,836	4,525	47,361	4,685	154	1,143	912

Comparative costs of Operation of Lorries :

Lorry	Repairs, Maintenance Tyres Oils & Labour			Licenses and Insurances			Petrol/Diesel and Bulk Oils			Total			Cost per mile
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
NRA 729 (S.&D.)	272	9	4	69	7	3	274	8	10	616	5	5	1/11d.
NRA 730 (S.&D.)	98	15	1	50	12	3	107	11	4	256	18	8	2/0¾d.
RRB 300 (S.&D.)	80	11	2	70	5	6	197	2	8	347	19	4	11¼d.
RNU 378 (S.&D.)	83	2	6	68	17	7	233	3	6	385	3	7	1/2½d.
TNU 478 (S.&D.)	67	12	4	68	9	6	161	19	10	298	1	8	1/2d.
XRA 56 (S.&D.) Diesel	319	15	7	106	17	10	179	4	4	605	17	9	1/6¼d.
502 FRA (S.&D.) Diesel	146	14	10	104	14	7	166	4	9	417	14	2	1/0¼d.
851 KRA (S&D.) Diesel	14	19	10	78	12	3	133	1	0	226	13	1	1/0d.
*JRB 68 (K.B.)	11	5	4	15	15	5	2	3	3	29	4	0	—
	1,084	0	8	617	16	9	1,452	16	3	3,154	13	8	1/3¾d.

* This vehicle was sold for scrap in October, 1959, and is not included in the above totals.

MULEDOZERS

Two Fordson muledozers (one purchased in 1949 and using T.V.O., and the second purchased in 1956, and operating on diesel), continued to be used with good effect for consolidation of refuse and restoring complete surfaces. These machines used without special tracks, the rear tyres being water ballasted, are economical for this class of work. Details of the operation of the machines is set out below :

Refuse Tips	Hours operated ONU 56 (T.V.O.)	44 CNU (Diesel)
B'Winning Playing Fields	—	125
Bateman, South Normanton	—	251
Wharf Road, Pinxton	—	34
Manor Farm, Tibshelf	—	3
Newton Wood, Newton	—	60
Mount Pleasant, Newton	—	10
Sookholme Tip, Shirebrook	1,225	13

	Hours Operated ONU 56 (T.V.O.)	44 CNU (Diesel)
Pleasley Vale	36	44
Hillstown	77	3
Rowthorne	363	3
Other Jobs :		
Miscellaneous	—	17

The cost of operating these machines, including an allowance for depreciation was :—

ONU 56 — £633 0s. 5d. or 7/5¼d. per hour.
44 CNU — £253 19s. 7d. or 9/0¼d. per hour.

SALVAGE

The returns for the recovery and disposal of salvage for the past five years are shown below :—

1959—60 : 893 tons 4 cwts. 49 lbs. £6,569 1s. 10d.
1958—59 : 793 tons 9 cwts. 84 lbs. £5,945 11s. 11d.
1957—58 : 847 tons 0 cwts. 45 lbs. £7,137 13s. 9d.
1956—57 : 762 tons 9 cwts. 105 lbs. £6,245 1s. 1d.
1955—56 : 681 tons 3 cwts. 92 lbs. £5,600 7s. 9d.

The various materials dealt with are summarised below :

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	566	19	0	4,579	17	3
Baled Destructor Scrap	235	1	28	1,224	16	7
Ferrous Metal	66	4	84	284	8	6
Non-ferrous Metal	2	3	46	196	2	3
Textiles	22	16	3	265	12	9
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	18	4	6
	893	4	49	6,569	1	10

The arrangements for the recovery of salvage have continued to function successfully and all materials show an increase except textiles, which have remained steady. Whilst at the commencement of the year the steel industry was still difficult, the position gradually improved, and sales to the value of £6,569 1s. 10d. represents a very satisfactory year.

All workmen employed on cleansing and salvage work have continued to receive an incentive bonus of 12½% of the gross value of salvage sold (payable monthly). Under this scheme each man was paid £17 2s. 7d. during the year.

During the year the loading of baled tins at the South Normanton Depot was improved by the provision of roller conveyors. By these means the baled tins are rolled directly from the storage shed onto the collection vehicle.

The N.E. Derbyshire Cleansing and Salvage Officers Committee has continued to meet quarterly. The exchange of information and discussion of problems is still very helpful.

MOTOR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

The arrangements made in 1952 for a section, under the control of this department, for the repair and maintenance of all Council motor vehicles and similar equipment has continued to work very successfully. In addition to cleansing vehicles, the lorries and vans used by the Engineer and Architect are dealt with. Vehicles attend the garage in accordance with programmes for service and examination and as a result it is possible to plan most of the major jobs required.

This control of vehicles has improved maintenance, reduced delays arising from break-downs and generally reduced the cost of the work. As a result of central purchasing maximum discounts are obtainable on materials, parts and accessories.

From the commencement of the section Mr. T. Truswell has served as the mechanic and the present state of efficiency is largely due to his ability as a mechanic and his enthusiasm for the work he undertakes.

SUMMARY OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT MAINTAINED WITH NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS DURING 1959/60

Class of Vehicle	*No. of Vehicles, etc.*	*No. of occasions Examined, Serviced, or Repaired.*
Cleansing Department		
Refuse Lorries	9	134
Vans	3	20
Tractors	2	18
Paper and Metal Presses	3	23
Pumps	2	11
Other Equipment :		
Bin Trolleys 8	17	36
Trailers 6		
Atco Mower 1		
Night Soil Tanks 2		
Engineer's Department		
Lorries	3	18
Vans	4	59
Compressors	2	5
Tractors	2	15
Other Equipment :		
Allen Scythes 2	6	2
Portable Pumps 4		
Meden Valley Waterworks		
Van	1	13
Architect's Department		
Lorries	2	32
Vans	2	40
Other Equipment :		
Allen Scythes (2)	2	3

Moore (Kirkby) Ltd., Printers, Kingsway, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham. 24067

MAINTENANCE COSTS, EXCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES

Department and Vehicle	Year Purchased	Parts Renewals etc.	Oil etc.	Tyres Tubes, Tyre Repairs, etc.	Batteries	Labour	Total	Mileage	Cost per Mile 1959/60	Cost per Mile 1958/59
CLEANSING		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
NRA 729 S. & D.	1949	104 10 7	6 0 10	74 3 9	5 1 0	82 13 2	272 9 4	6,386	10·24d.	3·95d.
NRA 730. S. & D.	1949	22 18 7	1 17 3	59 8 9	— — —	14 10 6	98 15 1	2,494	9.50d·	2·63d.
RRB 300. S. & D.	1952	31 3 10	2 9 1	28 7 6	— — —	18 10 9	80 11 2	7,337	2·65d.	2·88d.
RNU 378. S. & D.	1951	23 17 4	4 18 5	29 6 10	8 9 4	16 10 7	83 2 6	6,383	3·11d.	4·06d.
TNU 478. S. & D.	1953	19 14 3	4 9 4	29 6 10	— — —	14 1 11	67 12 4	5,049	3·21d.	4·12d.
XRA 56. S. & D. Fore & Aft	1955	107 15 7	9 5 1	148 9 4	17 8 4	36 17 3	319 15 7	7,931	9·68d.	7·07d.
502 FRA S. & D.	1958	29 9 1	7 1 4	90 12 4	— — —	19 12 1	146 14 10	8,134	4·33d.	·53d.
851 KRA S. & D.	1959	3 2 0	5 15 9	— — —	— — —	6 2 1	14 19 10	4,546	·79d.	—
JRB 68. Karrier Bantam	1946	7 17 11	8 2	— — —	— — —	2 19 3	11 5 4	—	—	—
44 CNU Fordson Diesel Tractor	1956	1 9 10	2 12 1	— — —	— — —	2 6 4	6 8 3	—	—	—
ONU 56. Fordson Muledozer	1949	12 8 5	— — —	82 13 10	— — —	9 2 11	104 5 2	—	—	—
Johnson 3″ Mud Pump (South)	1945	1 17 5	— — —	— — —	— — —	5 2 4	6 19 9	—	—	—
Johnson 3″ Mud Pump (North)	—	12 8 2	— — —	2 17 7	— — —	2 6 5	17 12 2	—	—	—
Other Equipment	—	17 0 6	5 10 0	8 11 11	— — —	21 14 5	52 16 10	—	—	—
Bulk Oil Supply	—	— — —	69 1 6	— — —	— — —	— — —	69 1 6	—	—	—
SALVAGE										
Trailers, Presses, etc.	—	57 11 2	— — —	27 19 0	— — —	59 14 4	145 4 6	—	—	—
PUBLIC HEALTH VANS										
NVO 464. Bedford C.A. Van	1953	7 7	— — —	— — —	— — —	3 4 8	3 12 3	—	—	—
260 ARR. Morris Minor Van.	1958	16 11	1 6 7	18 12 2	— — —	2 17 8	23 13 4	9,747	·58d.	.28d.
487 DVO. Morris Minor Van	1959	8 19 4	8 5	— — —	— — —	6 17 2	16 4 11	4,022	·97d.	—
ARCHITECTS										
VAL. 528. Bedford C.A. Van	1956	16 18 10	1 5 8	7 16 2	— — —	13 2 1	39 2 9	12,276	·77d.	·91d.
TRR 974. Bedford C.A. Van	1955	24 3 11	2 4 7	7 16 2	— — —	17 15 8	52 0 4	17,058	·73d.	1·19d.
PAL 842. Bedford 3 ton	1954	15 13 3	4 12 1	14 3 6	— — —	14 9 10	48 18 8	13,270	·88d.	1·11d.
274 AVO. Bedford 3 ton	1958	6 19 8	4 12 4	— — —	— — —	9 4 1	20 16 11	15,729	·32d.	·55d.
Other Equipment	—	6 19 0	— — —	— — —	— — —	11 2 7	18 1 7	—	—	—
Bulk Oil Supply	—	— — —	14 8 8	— — —	— — —	— — —	14 8 8	—	—	—
MEDEN VALLEY WATER BOARD										
UNN 711. Bedford C.A. Van	1956	39 12 10	2 5 3	— — —	5 17 7	12 2 0	59 17 8	—	—	—
Bulk Oil Supply	—	— — —	1 15 8	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 15 8	—	—	—
ENGINEERS										
VAL 37 Bedford C.A. Van	1956	14 19 10	1 8 4	21 6 7	5 17 7	15 17 7	59 9 11	8,313	1·72d.	·52d.
WVO 539. Bedford C.A. Van	1957	9 0 3	1 11 6	8 2 0	5 17 7	8 12 2	33 3 6	12,052	·66d.	·97d.
MVO 278. Bedford 30 cwt. Van	1952	37 3 1	3 2 10	25 2 7	— — —	18 18 5	84 6 11	11,556	1·75d.	1·36d.
229 BNN. Bedford 30 cwt. Van	1959	5 0 6	1 13 10	— — —	— — —	6 6 8	13 1 0	9,499	·33d.	·90d.
TNN 997. Bedford 3 ton	1955	35 14 6	3 17 9	38 10 6	— — —	10 19 0	89 1 9	10,739	1·99d.	1·38d.
861 EAL. Bedford 3 ton	1959	2 17 0	18 1	— — —	— — —	3 15 3	7 10 4	3,044	·61d.	—
NRR 401. Bedford 3 ton	1952	5 16 10	1 10 5	— — —	— — —	4 6 2	11 13 5	—	—	—
WVO 347. Ferguson Tractor	1957	8 8 3	4 12 4	16 4 0	5 17 7	6 9 3	41 11 5	—	—	—
542 AVO. Ferguson Diesel Tractor	1958	2 2 6	12 3	6 13 11	— — —	3 7 3	12 15 11	—	—	—
Broome & Wade Compressor (S)	1957	1 5 3	18 5	— — —	— — —	3 6 2	5 9 10	—	—	—
Broome & Wade Compressor (N)	—	50 2 1	1 12 0	— — —	— — —	21 2 6	72 16 7	—	—	—
Other Equipment	—	1 19 6	— — —	2 15 4	— — —	7 5 6	12 0 4	—	—	—
Bulk Oil Supply	—	— — —	24 17 11	— — —	— — —	— — —	24 17 11	—	—	—
GENERAL JOBS	—	17 3	9 9	— — —	— — —	57 14 8	59 1 8	—	—	—
TOTAL FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS 1959/60	—	749 2 10	199 13 6	749 0 7	54 9 0	571 1 6	2333 7 5	—	—	—
COMPARATIVE COST FOR 1958/59	—	556 14 11	196 7 10	630 5 2	76 18 3	582 7 11	2042 14 1	—	—	—